

CLAIMS

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10 1. Shaping tool for the polymerisation of profiled parts made of a composite material, comprising a rigid mould (10), and shaping means (24) suitable for pushing a part blank (E) into contact with the rigid mould, the tooling being characterized in that the rigid mould (10) is formed of several elements (14, 16) without any connection between them, holding means (36, 36') being provided to keep the said elements normally in contact with each other so as to define a cavity (12) inside which the part blank (E) can be fitted, while enabling the said elements (14, 16) to separate during a cooling phase following polymerisation of the blank.

15 2. Tooling according to claim 1, in which the holding means comprise means (36, 36') of applying a pressure on an outside face (16b) of at least one (16) of the elements in order to move it towards an adjacent element (14).

20 3. Tooling according to claim 2, in which the said outside face (16b) is approximately parallel to an inside face (16b) delimiting the cavity (12) from the element (16) on which it is formed, or from a counter-  
25 form placed inside this element.

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4. Tooling according to any one of claims 2 and 3, in which the elements (14, 16) of the rigid mould (10) are placed inside a rigid envelope (20) and the

pressure application means include at least one flexible wall (36) connected in a leak tight manner on the envelope (20) and that can be forced into contact with the said external face (16b) by applied pressure.

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5. Tooling according to any one of claims 2 and 3, in which the elements (14, 16) of the rigid mould (10) are placed in a rigid envelope (20) and the means of applying the pressure include at least one leak tight bladder (16') bearing on the envelope (20) and that is forced into contact with the said outside face (16b) by applied pressure.

6. Tooling according to any one of the previous claims, in which the rigid mould (10) forms a cavity (12) with a U-section and has a central element (14) materialising the bottom of the cavity and two end elements (16) materializing the sides of the cavity, the holding means (36) normally keeping the end elements in contact with the side edges (14b) of the central element (14).

7. Tooling according to claims 4 and 6 combined, in which the means of applying pressure comprise two flexible walls (36) that can be forced into contact with the said external faces (16b) of each of the end elements (16), by applied pressure.

8. Tooling according to either of claims 4 and 7, in which external pressure is applied to the flexible walls (36).

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9. Tooling according to claims 5 and 6 combined, in which the means of applying pressure comprise two leak tight bladders (36') that can be applied in contact with the said outside faces (16b) of each of the end elements (16), under the effect of the pressure output by an external pressure source.

10. Tooling according to any one of the previous claims, in which the cross-section of the cavity (12) is uniform along its entire length.

11. Tooling according to any one of claims 1 to 9, in which the cross-section of the cavity (12) is variable from one end to the other.

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